

Bulletin No. 27 of 1938.

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS, 1937-38.

I. TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE £2,517,530 increase £193,730.

From the maximum consumption year of 1926-27 when the Drink Bill was £3,003,828, averaging per inhabitant £5.7.1 there had been a constant annual fall to £1,775,249 - £3.1.6 per head in 1931-32, since when there has been a continuous rise, due mainly to an increased consumption of beer. The total drink bill for 1937-38 was £2,517,530 - £4.5.3 per head, being an increase during the last 6 years of £742,281 or £1.3.9 per head, the increase for the last year being £193,730 or £0.6.3 per head.

		1926-27	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
Total Value	£	3,003,828	2,186,530	2,323,800	2,517,530
Per head of popn.		£5.7.1	£3.14.7	£3.19.0	£4.5.3

II. TOTAL QUANTITIES CONSUMED.

BEER (Galls.) 5,493,053 - increase 499,091 or 10% (0.4% Imported)
SPIRITS (Pf.Galls.) 92,731 increase 5,250 or 6% (35.8% Imported)

BEER. - The consumption per inhabitant was 9.30 galls., an increase of 0.81 gallons for the year and 3.59 gallons for the last 5 years, but it is still less than the maximum of 10.83 gallons in 1926-27. Imported Beer decreased from 25,747 to 20,300 gallons, and Australian Beer increased from 4,968,215 to 5,472,753 gallons.

SPIRITS. (Pf.Galls.) - Consumption of Spirits was .01 pf. galls. higher than in the previous year - 0.16 pf. galls. per inhabitant compared with the maximum of 0.37 pf. galls in 1923-24. The total quantity in pf. galls. was 92,731 an increase of 5,250 pf. galls. or 6%. Imported Spirits consumed increased by 7% and Australian spirits by 4%. The proportion to the total was - Imported Spirits 35.8 (36.3)%, Australian Spirits 64.2 (63.7)%.

WINE. The annual consumption is estimated at 0.75 gallons per head.

		1926-27	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
Beer	Galls.	6,074,176	4,651,214	4,993,962	5,493,053
Per Head	"	10.83	7.93	8.49	9.30
Spirits	Pf.Galls.	178,856	82,558	87,481	92,731
Per Head	"	0.32	0.14	0.15	0.16
Propn. Imported	%	47.9	35.3	36.3	35.8

III. NET CUSTOMS AND EXCISE REVENUE £872,038 (£802.913).

		1926-27	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
Customs	£	197,368	68,963	75,673	77,007
Excise	£	992,041	670,864	727,240	795,031
Total	£	1,189,409	739,827	802,913	872,038

IV. DRUNKENNESS - CONVICTIONS 2,520 (2,628).

The convictions for drunkenness for the year numbered 2,520 (2,628), a decrease of 108 or 0.19 per 1,000 inhabitants. Per 1,000 of population, the convictions were 4.27 (4.46) compared with 10.89 in 1926 and 13.63 in 1913. The minimum was 4.03 in 1931.

		1926	1935	1936	1937
Convictions	No.	6,029	2,737	2,628	2,520
Per 1000 popn.	No.	10.89	4.68	4.46	4.27

A. W. BOWDEN,

Statistical Office,

ADELAIDE.

3rd October, 1938.

GOVERNMENT STATIST.